

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD
November 6, 2007

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, November 6, 2007. Chairman Tomschin called the meeting to order with Commissioners Athey, Sandberg, Olson and Janssen present. Also present were Mike Swenson of the Ortonville Independent, County Attorney Bill Watson and County Auditor Michelle Knutson. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Janssen and carried to approve the minutes of the October 16th regular meeting.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Olson and carried to approve the agenda with noted additions.

Committee reports were presented.

Attorney Watson requested that copier drum replacement be paid out of the repair and maintenance budget for 2008. HR Director Schultz arrived at the meeting.

Attorney Watson updated the Board on County Road #63.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Olson and carried to accept the resignation of Part-time Deputy Sheriff Brian Dahl effective October 22, 2007.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Olson and carried to accept the resignation of Jennifer Toomer effective November 3, 2007. The board accepted it in good standing with less than the required 2 week written notice due to verbal notice received so planning could be done.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Janssen and carried to ratify authorizing the filling of the Office Support Specialist/Child Care Program Assistant position vacated by Toomer.

Motion by Janssen, seconded by Sandberg and carried to ratify the emergency hire of Jim Scheff as a fill-in Custodian at Grade 8 Step 12.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Janssen and carried to authorize the hiring of Jim Hasslen for the Emergency Management Director/Dispatcher position at Grade 15 Step Start effective December 1, 2007.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Olson and carried to adopt the revision to Section 320 of the Employee Handbook and the Email and Internet Usage Policy as presented by HR Director Schultz.

HR Director Schultz reported that notice was received that the County is in compliance with pay equity as of December 31, 2006.

Motion by Janssen, seconded by Athey and carried to close the meeting at 9:10 AM to continue discussions on labor negotiation strategy.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to reopen the meeting at 9:47 AM.

Following break, motion by Olson, seconded by Janssen and carried to authorize a cleanout on County Ditch #2 as requested by County Engineer Nick Anderson. The cost of the cleanout is estimated at \$3,000.

Discussion was held on cleanout needed north of Joint Ditch #4.

Engineer Anderson updated the Board on the trail and bridge projects. Anderson reported that the bridge at the foot of the lake will not be opened during the winter as originally planned.

County Recorder Elaine Martig presented a compliance update and reported on her office's activities.

Discussion was held on tax forfeited properties and the appraised value of the same as presented by County Treasurer Cindy Nelson. Motion by Athey, seconded by Olson and carried to adopt the following resolution:

2007-30

BE IT RESOLVED, that all parcels of tax-forfeited land listed on the List of Tax-Forfeited Land #07-1 be classified as non-conservation land; that the basic sale price of each parcel on the List of Tax-Forfeited Land #07-1, that is on file with the Clerk of the County Board, be approved and authorization for a public sale of this land be granted, pursuant to M.S. 282.01; that the sale will be held at 9:00 AM on December 7, 2007, by the Big Stone County Treasurer at the Big Stone County Courthouse, for not less than the basic sale price; and that full payment is required at the time of the sale.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Sandberg and carried to authorize payment of the following claims as presented by Auditor Knutson:

General	\$ 44,097.70
Highway	33,788.53
State	20.00
BSAG	<u>56.26</u>
Total	\$ 77,962.49

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Athey and carried to appoint Commissioner Olson as the 2007 alternate voting delegate for MCIT.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Janssen and carried to execute the assessment agreement with Otrej Township.

Auditor Knutson reported that the Historical Society was planning to submit another application for a Trail and Transportation Museum grant as was done previously.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Athey and carried to adopt the following resolution:

2007-31

BE IT RESOLVED that Big Stone County reaffirms its commitment to the healthcare of its residents and to single plan county-based purchasing.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that as a member of PrimeWest, Big Stone County directs PrimeWest to adopt and implement all available and necessary legislative strategies and activities to further the maintenance, growth and sustainability of single plan county-based purchasing on behalf of Big Stone County.

Rod Kelsey of Riley, Dettmann & Kelsey provided an update on the status of the compensation and classification study.

Chairman Tomschin adjourned the meeting at 11:10 AM.

Doug Tomschin, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Michelle R. Knutson, Auditor